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THE COMMUNITY OF HAVILAND, KANSAS:

Its Early History and Development

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A thesis presented to the Graduate Faculty
of the Fort Hays Kansas State College in
partial fulfillment of the requirements for
the Degree of Master of Science

by

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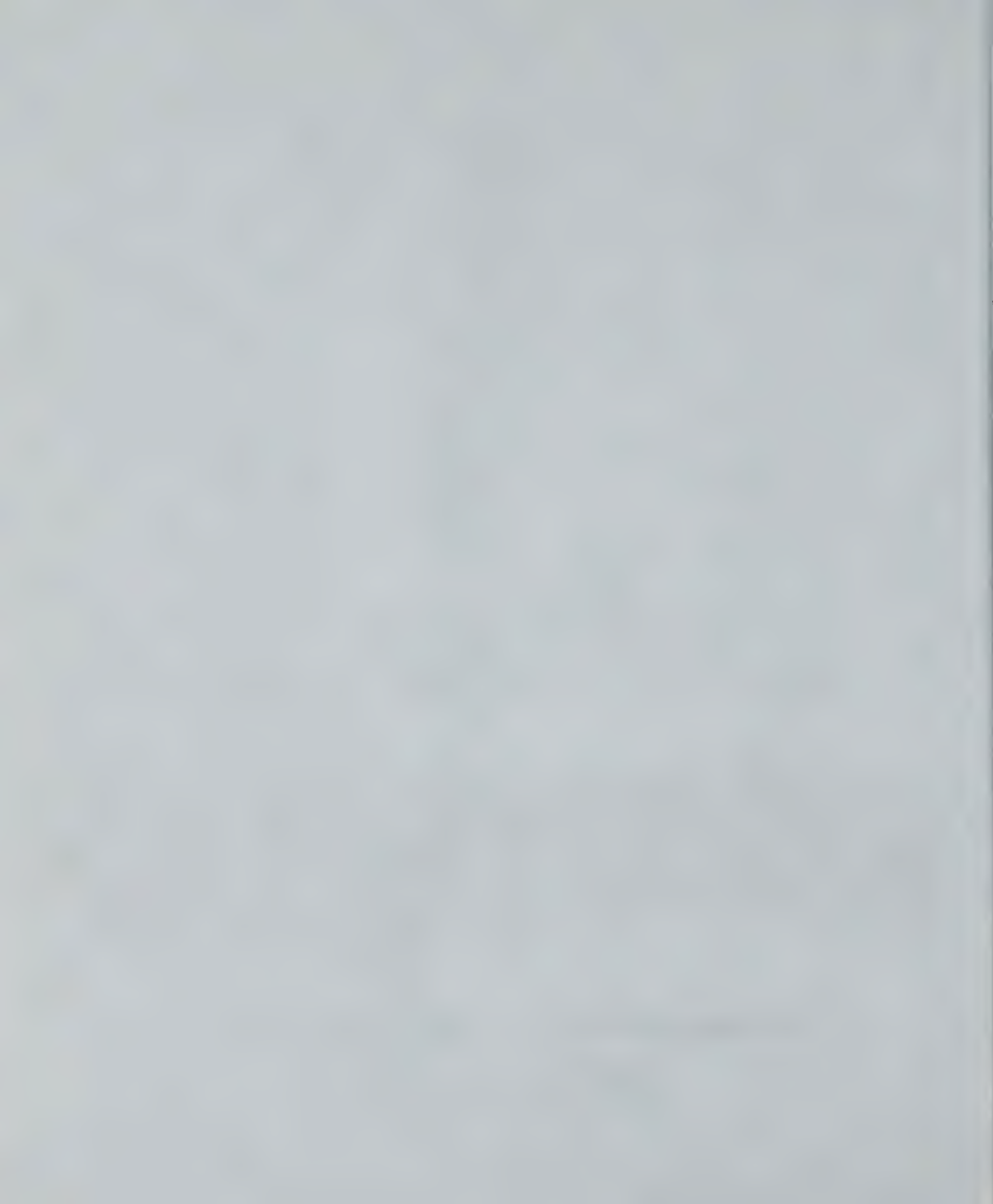
The writer is deeply appreciative for the advice, constructive criticism and encouragement of Dr. Raymond L. Welty, Head of the History Department of Fort Hays Kansas State College, who gave so generously of his time in assisting with the preparation of this Thesis.

To Dr. Floyd B. Streeter, sincere thanks for his many suggestions.

To all those who granted me interviews I wish to express my thanks for without your help and encouragement I should never have completed this Thesis.

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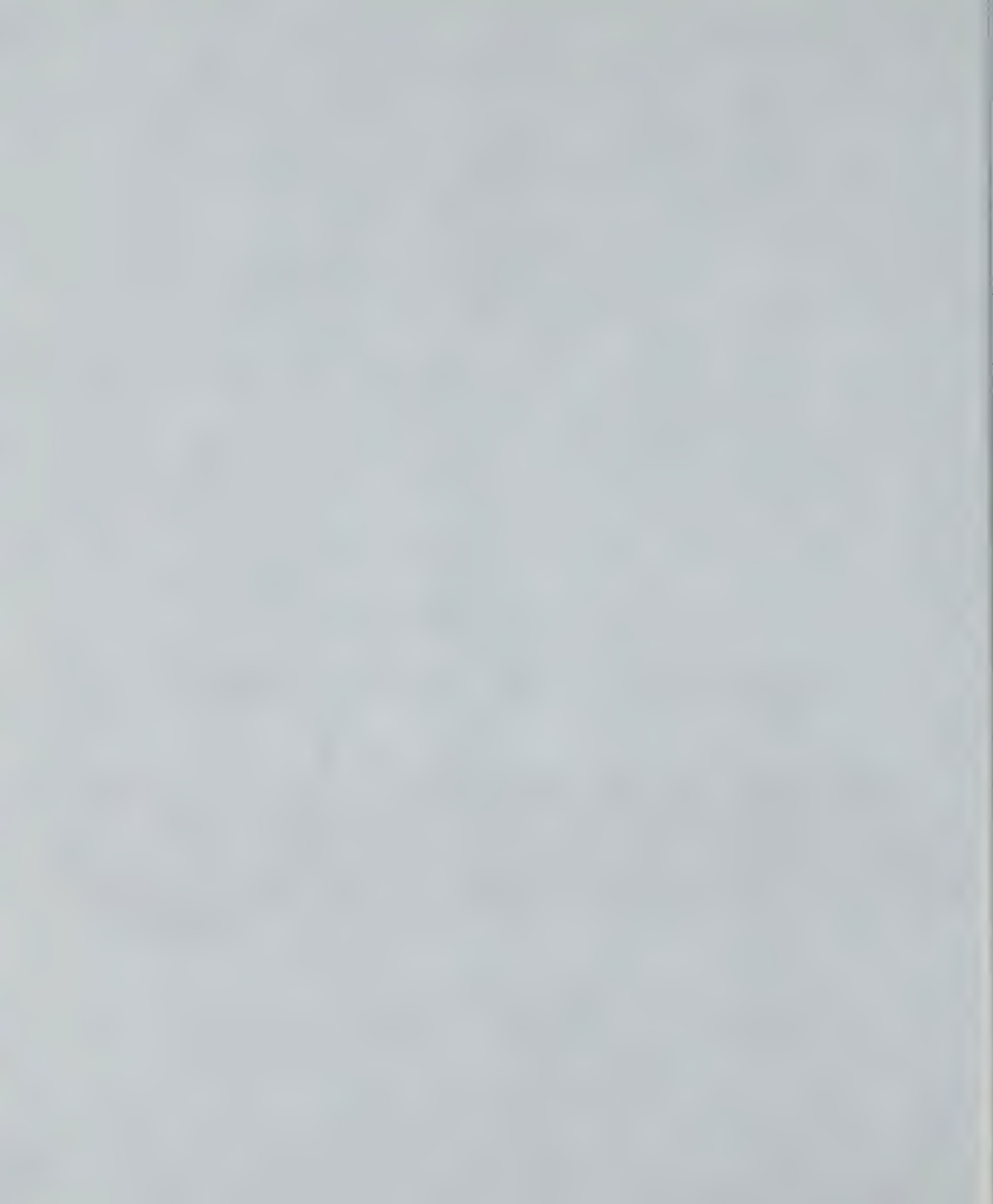
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

As I have listened to my parents and neighbors relating their experiences during the early years of Pioneer life around Haviland, it occurred to me that many of those interesting facts were worth preserving for the future. This Thesis is an effort to picture early Kiowa County and the Haviland Community.

The history of the Haviland Community has never been written and some of it is now impossible to compile because the county records and the files of the early Haviland newspapers were destroyed by fire, the former in 1911 and the latter in 1916. Many early settlers have been called to their eternal home, and those who survive were quite young when the first settlement was made.

Nevertheless from scattered records and from survivors who have first hand knowledge of the early settlement it has been possible to reconstruct a somewhat incomplete account of the Haviland Community.

Most of the history has been obtained in interviews with the older settlers who have been very interesting and helpful. There will be a few events that some may disagree with but in most controversial events I have tried to get two or more persons to validate the ones that were most likely to be questioned.



Other source materials have been derived from the files of the Kiowa County Historical Society, Newspaper files, Minutes from the Monthly Meetings of the Prairie Flower and Haviland Friends Churches and Manuscripts.

CHAPTER II

EARLY KIOWA COUNTY

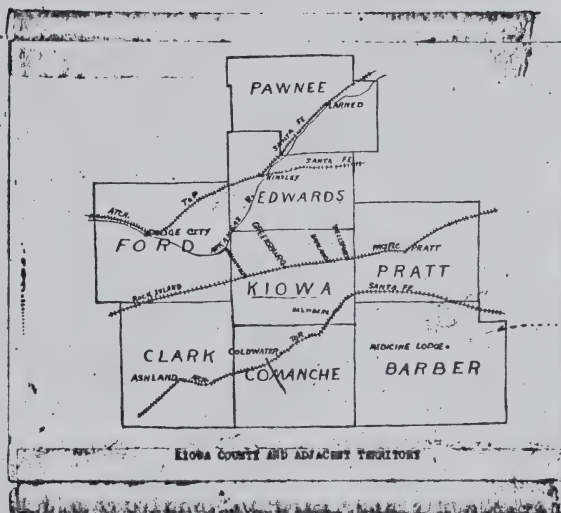
ORGANIZATION

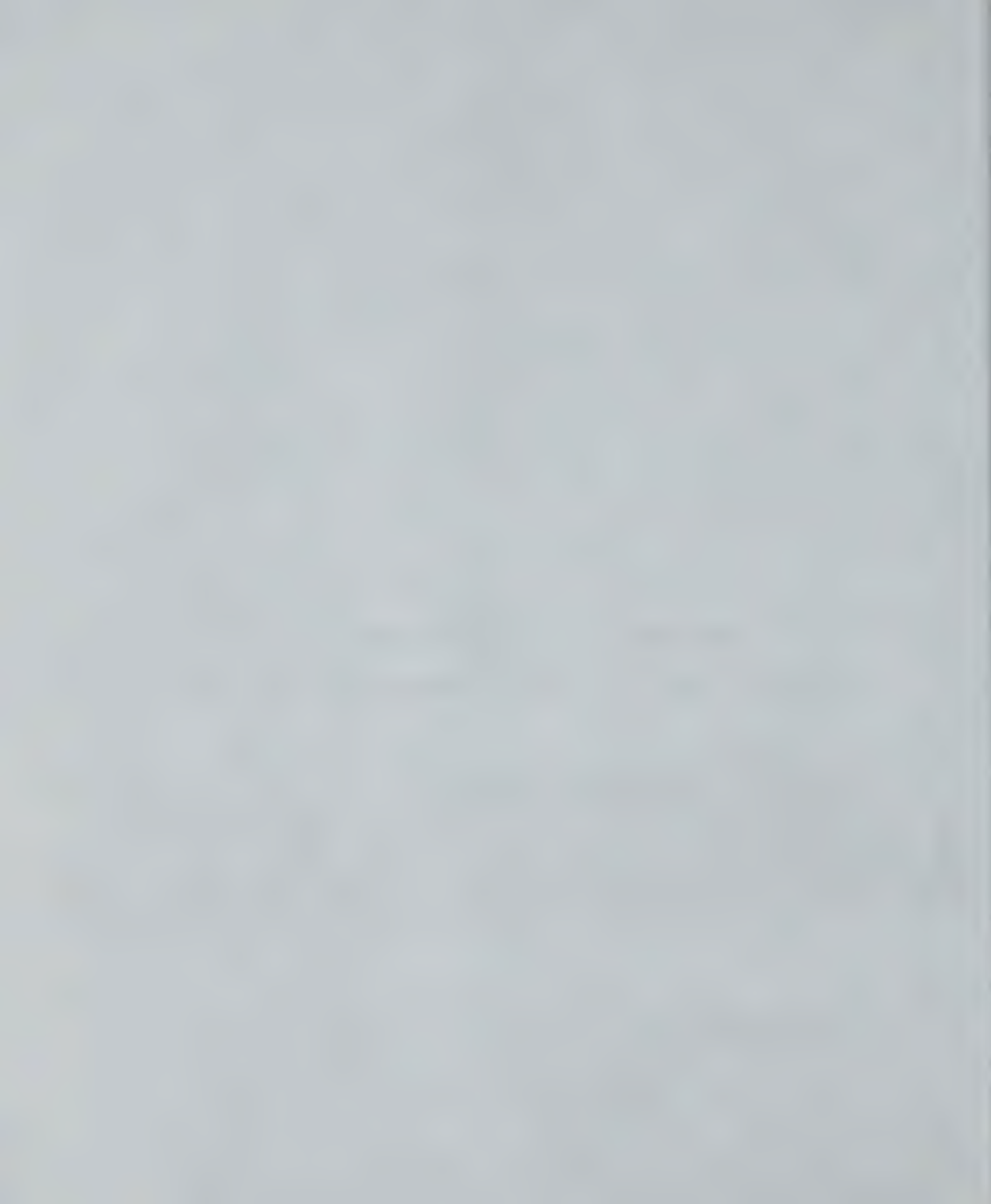
Kiowa County is a small county located about thirty miles north of the Oklahoma line and one hundred and fifty miles east of the Colorado line in the southwestern part of Kansas. It is the second county north from Oklahoma and the sixth county east from Colorado, and is bounded by Ford County on the west, Edwards County on the north, Pratt County on the east, and Comanche County on the south.

The surface of the county was a rolling prairie, slightly higher in the center. The south half lies in the valley of the Medicine River and the southeast section is very rough and hilly and still is used as a ranch country. The Thompson Creek runs through this section. The northern half of the county slopes in a succession of foot hills towards the valley of the Arkansas River. This land is very sandy and the Rattlesnake Creek is the principal stream in this area entering at the west and flowing northeast into Edwards County.

The county was first established by an act of the state legislature in 1867 which erected twenty-six counties in







3

western Kansas.¹ The county received its name from the
Kiowa Indians.²

DISCONTINUED--THEN RESTORED

The first settlers came to the southern part of Kiowa County and used the land for cattle grazing. A number of "cattlemen" took possession of the land after it was ceded to the government by the Indians and pushed the buffalo away with thousands of head of cattle.³

There was an organization known as the "Comanche Pool" which wished to use the land as range territory and for some reason the State Legislature of 1875 changed the boundaries and made it part of Edwards and Comanche Counties. The northern half of the county then became known as the Edwards Ranch and the southern half as the Comanche Pool Ranch.⁴ This division of the county was in force for eleven years until House Bill 81 was passed on February 10, 1886, recreating Kiowa County according to its original and present boundaries.⁵

Through the remainder of this thesis the term Kiowa County will be used even though some of the happenings occurred

1. Laws of the State of Kansas, 1867, p. 56.

2. Blackmar, Frank W., Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, Vol. II, pp. 76-77.

3. Kiowa County Signal, September 24, 1886.

4. Ibid.

5. Laws of the State of Kansas, 1886, p. 54.



before the county was restored. They, however, happened in what was originally Kiowa County.

EARLIEST SETTLERS

The first settlement by white men in what is now Kiowa County was made in 1868 by a Mr. Judson, who settled on what was later known as the Tom Logan ranch, near Belvidere. Tradition states he was killed by Indians in the box canyon above the ranch. Next came Mr. Greaver, later in 1868. He brought cattle and built his cabin on the west bank of the stream three-quarters of a mile east of Belvidere in an elm grove that stands between the present highway and the Santa Fe tracks.⁶

FIRST CHURCH SERVICES

The Howard family arrived on July 4, 1877, and was no more than settled on their claim when Mr. Howard went to Kinsley after supplies, and while he was away, Mr. Reed, a homesteader from south of Kinsley who had come to cut firewood called the settlers together for a religious service. They met in James Grant's dugout, now enlarged into the basement of the barn on the Tom Taylor Ranch. Mr. Reed read a published sermon. Charles C. Howard, who

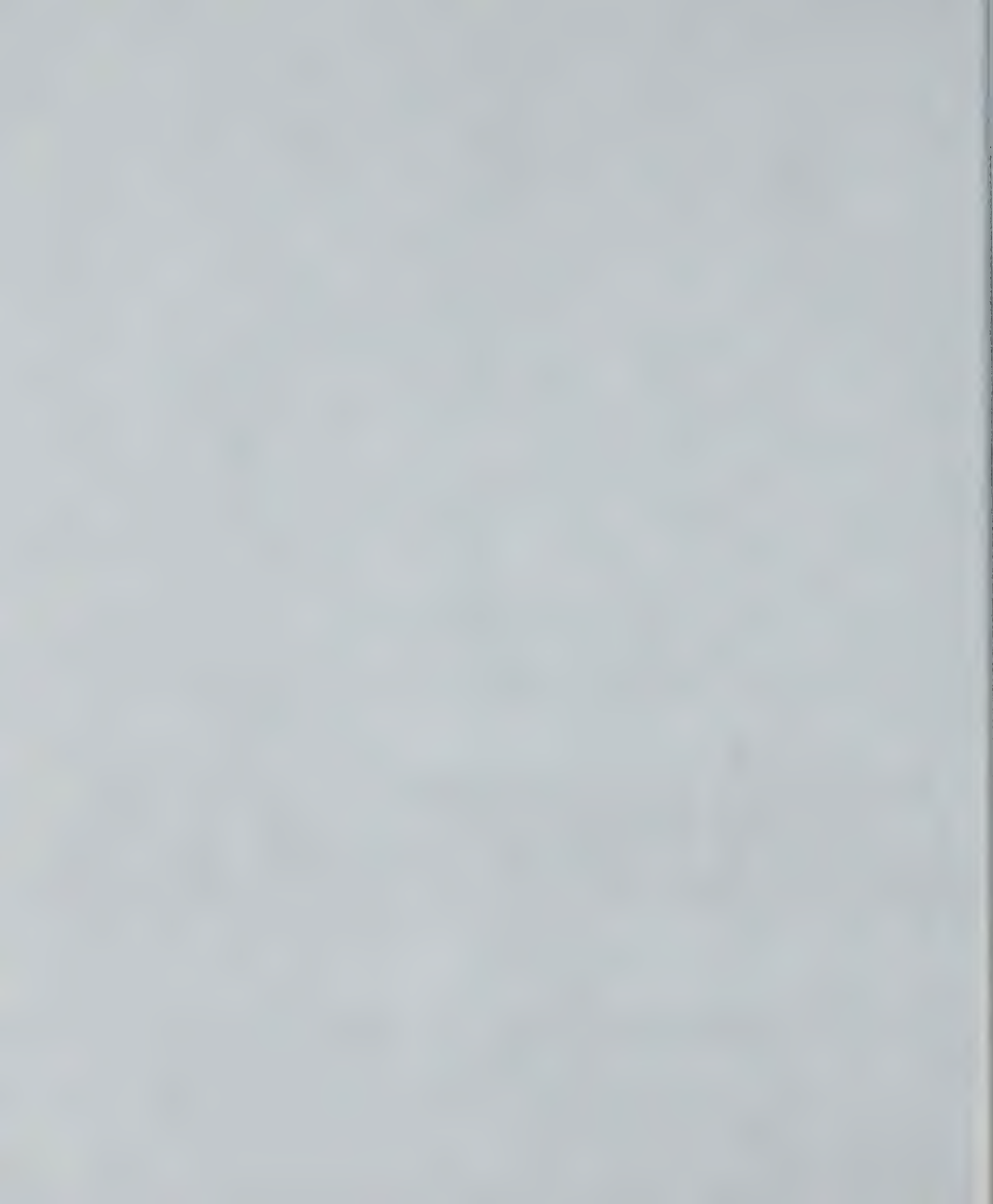
6. Kiowa County Historical Society, Manuscript.



was an ordained Baptist minister, carried on the services started by Mr. Reed and within two weeks he delivered the first original sermon in Comanche or Kiowa Counties.⁷ Continuing the work begun in James Grant's dugout, a Sunday School was started. The dugout was too small for the crowd so they met under the shade of a group of young elm trees near the mouth of Gypsum Creek, a spot between the present railroad and the river, less than a quarter of a mile north west from the Tom Taylor home. The people brought wagon seats and chairs from their homes. Later the meeting place was changed to a site on Spring Creek, with peeled cottonwood logs furnishing the auditorium.

Better quarters were needed so both Baptists and Methodists contributed money, material, and labor to build a church. Mr. Howard has the records for this building enterprise. The board of directors consisted of C. G. Howard, R. B. Walker, Daniel Refoir, Lucian Laws, and Lawrence Wilson. A committee consisting of John Grant, R. B. Walker, Dennis R. Logan, John W. Marrs, and Daniel Roberts selected a site at the southwest corner of s.w. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 2 Township 30 Range 16 and Lawrence Wilson and Franklin Rockefeller and their wives donated and deeded an acre. There the board of directors erected a building of a framed in concrete wall

7. Ibid.



with weather-board veneer, 24 x 30 feet. The building was completed at a total cost of \$437.00 and used that winter and for a number of years. When the Methodists withdrew their support the Baptists were drawn into other interests and finally the board sold the building to Franklin Rocefeller, who moved and remodeled it into a tenant house.⁸

FADEWAY FOR JAMES' BROTHERS

It is told that the Greaver ranch was a "fade-away" for the James' brothers; Bob Ford also figured in early local history. An interesting event occurred about the time the Howards arrived (1877) and was a topic widely discussed in early days. There was an element of riff-raff in the population about Fort Griffen (now Sun City.) Barber County had just been organized and a law and order element had gotten control. A group of ruffians left Sun City one evening to visit a rendezvous up the river, in territory now in Kiowa County. On the way they fired upon a law and order element employed about their homes. The people called upon the sheriff for protection. The sheriff met the "roughs" the following morning as they were returning. They were Wilkes Whitaker, Bob Ford, and Joe Ford. Joe Ford resisted arrest and was at once shot by the sheriff and so badly wounded

8. Ibid.

that his friends built a tent over him where he fell and did not attempt to move him for a week.⁹

EXPERIENCE OF AN EARLY SETTLER

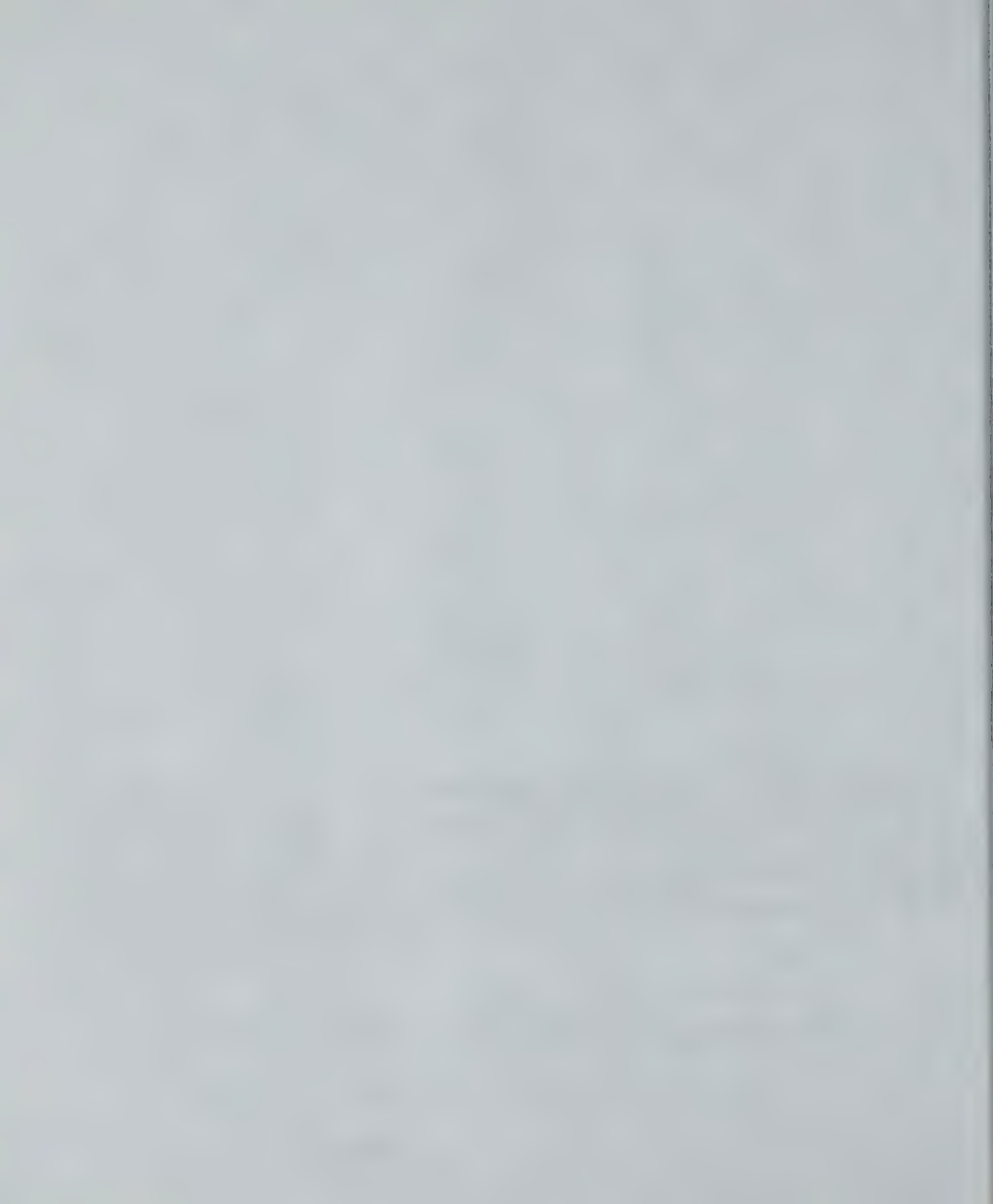
John W. Mars, with his family, left Iowa in March of 1872 in a covered wagon with a four horse team, and as any old mariner would say, the party "headed south by west with the wind in their teeth."¹⁰

Nine weeks time was required for the journey, as about twenty miles per day was the distance usually covered. Most of the streams in Kansas had to be forded, many of them swollen from spring rains. Sometimes while crossing the streams, the water would come up into the wagon beds, soaking everything; then the party would have to lay over a day and dry things in the sun.

When they arrived at the place where Haven, Kansas, now stands, the whole family wanted to settle there. John insisted that he would never stop until he reached the Medicine River. When about a day's journey from their destination, they came to where a family was living in a neat log house. John, being curious and a close observer, asked the head of the house-hold where he got the logs, and he replied, "Down on the Medicine River, there is plenty of timber there. We

9. Ibid.

10. Kiowa County Historical Society, Manuscript.



lived down there about a year. I liked it fine but my women folks were afraid of the Indians, so I had to pull stakes and move up here." This man's name was Hilton, and he and his family were very hospitable to the weary travelers. When Mr. Hilton learned that John and his family were headed for the "Medicine," he exclaimed with enthusiasm, "Why I had the best claim on the river, hadn't filed on it or anything. There's a shack down there, and I planted a patch of corn this spring, so just go right down and take possession." A shack to live in and a patch of corn seemed like a great blessing in those days, and John had no trouble in finding same and taking possession, the last week in May, 1872.

In the late seventies large cattle ranches were formed. Among the first were Frank Rockefellers called by him, "Soldier Creek Park," Watson and Fullingtons, Schoffield, Pyles, Greenleafs, Kirbys and others. John and Elizabeth lived and died as they had wished, and today in the little cemetery on the hill east of Belvidere may be seen two mounds with a modest marker, bearing these simple words:

Elizabeth, Wife of John W. Marrs, Born,
October 26, 1823. Died, June 22, 1901.
John W. Marrs, Born, April 23, 1825.
Died, December 1, 1916.¹¹

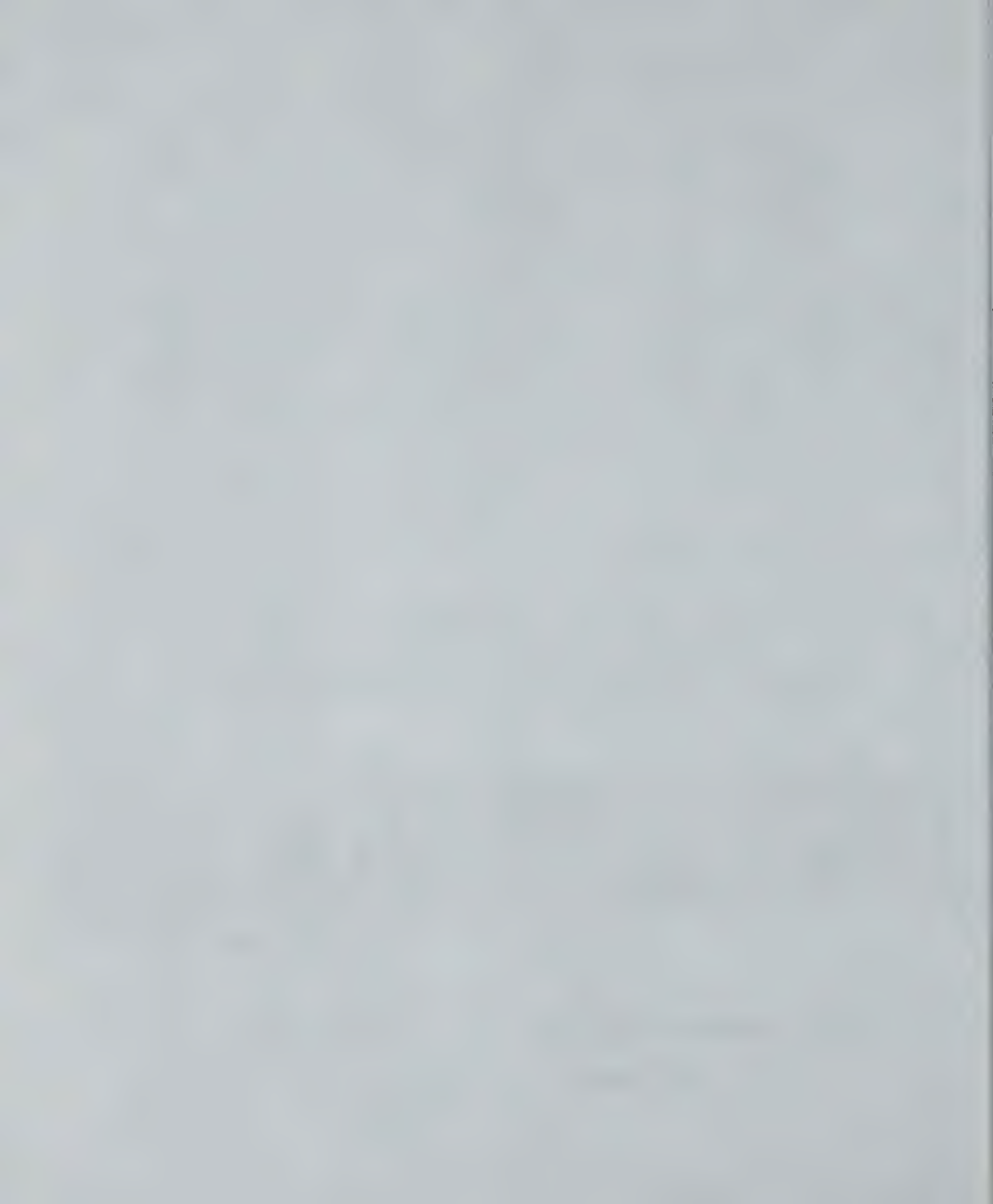
GREENSBURG SETTLED

The site of Greensburg was laid out in January, 1885. Governor John A. Martin granted the patent for the city. The town was settled the year before the county was organized. The first newspaper in the county was the "Greensburg Republican." In its issue of March 22, 1887, an editorial made the following boastful statement concerning Greensburg, "A little more than two years old and yet we are a substantial, thriving, and bustling city with a population of 2,000."¹²

The organization and settlement of Greensburg, the county seat, centers around a small settlement known as Janesville, which was actually the first town in the county. The history of Janes or Janesville, about two miles west of the present sit of Greensburg began with the rise to prairie fame of one D. R. Green, known then and now as "Cannonball Green," a tribute to his prowess as a pony express rider. Now Cannonball Green, "harbored a hankerin," as he would have said, for a town which would hear his name, and so by some means unknown, he affected an agreement with residents of Janesville whereby they were to move to a site controlled by his new organization, the Greensburg Town Company.¹³ According to the agreement all houses were to be moved by the company to

12. Ibid.

13. Bryant, William, Manuscript.



Greensburg and set on any lot the resident fancied. Further guaranties were made that the houses were to be in as good condition after being moved as before, and if a house had a cellar before transplanting, it certainly would have one after.¹⁴

Janesville consisted of a post office and a handful of houses and half of them were moved to Greensburg late at night to prevent further argument and perhaps a little gun-play.¹⁵

The temporary county seat of Kiowa County was declared when Governor John A Martin appointed H. H. Patten, Jacob Dawson, and C. F. Fullington, county commissioners, and M. A. Nelson, county clerk. The commissioners met on March 29, 1886, and declared Greensburg the temporary county seat and formed six townships, namely: Wellsford, Glick, Reeder, Center, Martin, and Kiowa.¹⁶

GREENSBURG'S LARGE HAND-DUG WELL

Greensburg's gigantic hand-dug well, among the largest in the world, has had a major role in the growth of the city and community. Today the cavern stands as a monument to determined and courageous pioneers.

For the story behind the large hand-dug well, it is

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid.

16. Kiowa County Historical Society, Manuscript.



necessary to turn back the pages of history to some fifty-five years ago. At that time the government was offering grants of the last free land of any value. Railroads were extending their lines into the new territory, with the usual inducement for colonists.

The "boom" period arrived. Land values soared and town lots were at a premium. Almost overnight barren prairies became metropolitan areas. It was as though the area had been touched with a magic wand. Greensburg was no exception, and suddenly awoke to find itself no longer an inland trading center with a few hundred inhabitants. It had become a bustling and prosperous city claiming a population of more than 2,500 souls. Two railroads served this thriving prairie metropolis where electric light and water works system provided services for citizens.

During the year 1887 civic pride knew no bounds and an aggressive and enterprising citizenry made the momentous decision to have a water works system that was second to none. The city's governing body passed an ordinance in June of that year granting the franchise and right-of-way to the Greensburg Water Supply and Hydraulic Power Company. The contract called for a water works system that would insure an abundance of good water for all purposes and provided ample fire protection. A gigantic well was the answer--Greensburg's hand-dug well.



The estimated cost of the plant was about \$75,000. One of the chief objects of the system was to supply water for the Santa Fe railroad.

Construction was begun in 1887 and the work completed in 1888. The huge excavation, 32 feet in diameter and 109 feet deep, was cased with a wall of native stone to prevent caving. This stone was hauled from quarries along the Medicine River about 12 miles south of Greensburg. An interesting feature in the well's construction is found in the fact that the stone wall casing was built on a circular wood platform on the ground level. As the earth was removed and the cavern deepened, the casing acting as a Keystone, was lowered into the excavation inch by inch. Thus when the desired depth was reached, the casing was fully completed and in place.

Upon completion of the well, water was forced more than 100 feet to the surface and boosted again another 100 feet into a large wooden reservoir. This tower, visible for many miles, served as a landmark and guide, as well as an emblem of civic pride.

However, the bubble burst and the "boom" collapsed. Shortly after 1896 when the Santa Fe had torn up its tracks and dismantled its equipment, there were less than 200 persons remaining to represent the citizenry of a city which had so recently claimed a population of 2,500. The water tower was

sold to Alva, Oklahoma, but the large well remained.

For many years the well continued to provide Greensburg with its supply of water for household and commercial purposes. In fact the well was in actual use as a supply unit until 1932. Today as in 1888 it is in good condition and offering a plentiful supply of fresh and pure water. Greensburg, however, outgrew the capacity of the large hand-dug well and new units were necessary to supply the needs of its present population of more than 1,500 persons.¹⁷

17. Chamber of Commerce, Greensburg, Kansas, Pamphlet.

CHAPTER III

EARLY HAVILAND COMMUNITY

FIRST SETTLERS

The first settlers in what is now the present site of Haviland were B. H. Albertson, Lindley Pitts, Jabez Hall, and James Gulley. They left Indiana and landed at Rose Hill, Kansas, in June 1884. Leaving their families in Rose Hill the four men slowly wended their way westward, seeking a place to establish a Quaker Colony and get a long desired home. Traveling was very slow and as the roads were only trails they made slow progress. After a few days they reached a place known as Dowell Post Office, Edwards County, which was later moved a half mile west and called Wellsford. They learned here that the land west was not taken and moved on to within two miles of the present site of Haviland.

Lindley Pitts staked the claim on the farm which Elmer Davis now owns. B. H. Albertson staked the one joining this on the west. James Gulley staked the one on which Ernest Binford now lives, and Jabez Hall the quarter cornering with B. H. Albertson on the northwest. All four were located northwest of the present site of the town of Haviland. These pioneer men plowed sod, built there sod shanties and returned



for their families. B. H. Albertson made the return trip with his family and arrived at his new home on October 23, 1884.¹

W. A. Woodward arrived in the new community in the summer of 1884, and he states that he sat on B. H. Albertson's little shanty and counted over three hundred wagons with their loads and stock going west on the Cannon Ball Trail. This gives one an excellent picture of how prolific the year of 1884 was in the settlement of the west.²

Among the early settlers of this community the following arrived in the years 1884 and 1885: B. H. Albertson, Josiah Bindord, Margret Binford, James Gulley, I. H. Woodward, R. D. Woodward, Isaac Futhy, Charles Dowell, Frank Brown, Vern Parnell, J. A. Harmon, Henry Hart, William Wilson, Alfred Cox, Nathan Brown, F. D. Kimberley, M. C. Shuck, Charley Hodgins, Luther Hadley, Charley Isham, David Burns, Cardelia Mills, Gurney Mills, Zimiri Thompson, Ruben Eaton, Isaac Lindley Pitts, Caleb Davis, A. K. Kemp, Stanton Woodward, Verlin Pickett, Miles Woodard, William Woodward, Jabez Hall, Dattie Pickett, Alva Gulley, Paris Newlin, P. M. May, Colonel Dean, Fleming Family, E. M. Pyle, Francis McGraw, George Cooke, George E. Cooke, Fannie Cooke,

1. Hockett, Mrs. Mary, Personal Interview, Haviland, Kansas, May 27, 1942.

2. Woodward, William, Personal Interview, Haviland, Kansas, May 4, 1942.

Cash Colclazier, John Colclazier, George Green, James Evans, H. F. Siler, J. A. Lucas, Andrew Amick, David Bevan, Barney Corrigan, James M. Scott, Oarn Cooke.³

WELLSFORD

A discussion of the Haviland Community would be incomplete without including a summary of Wellsford, located four miles east of the present site of Haviland. In 1884, when most of the early settlers were arriving, the Post Office was located next to the Pratt County line, and was called Dowell Post Office, Edwards County. It was soon moved, however, to the present site of Wellsford, where the only hand-dug well in the region was located. All the first settlers hauled their water from Wellsford and the town soon became the best business center for many miles. B. G. Horton put in a dry goods and grocery store, three hotels were started, three drug stores, a big livery stable and many homes were erected, R. A. Dowell, being responsible for the building of many of them. According to Frank Dowell, at least five or six hundred people were living in Wellsford in 1888.⁴

This rapidly developing frontier town was regarded for miles around as the great sport center. It supported

3. Personal interviews with Frank Brown, Vern Parnell, Olie Eaton, Jim Clinger, Harvey Scott and Bert Woodward.

4. Dowell, Frank, Personal Interview, May 31, 1942.

two race tracks, with a big barn for their fine horses. Expert trainers were brought in from the east to train horses which were later shipped to Cleveland, Ohio. The town was noted for its gambling and drinking.⁵ According to William Corrigan, on one occasion he tried to enter main street with his team and wagon. It was roped off and in the center of the street a "crap" game was in progress.⁶

When the railroads were coming through this part of the county, Wellsford was the general headquarters for the workmen; also the cowboys from the ranches south of town made Wellsford their loafing place.⁷

Soon after the completion of the railroads and the opening of the Cherokee strip in Oklahoma, Wellsford dwindled to almost a ghost town. According to Mrs. Frank Dowell it lost while Haviland gained, because the latter was stressing their school and church. At any rate all that remains of the once bustling frontier center is a grocery store, the public school, church, two elevators, and a few homes.⁸

BRENHAM

Another town five miles west of the present site of Haviland was very important in the early development of the Haviland community, for Brenham had the only well early in

6. Corrigan, William, Personal Interview, May 31, 1942.

7. Ibid.

8. Dowell, Mrs. Frank, Personal Interview, May 31, 1942.

1884 for those people settling west of what later was Haviland. Brenham developed rapidly during the first year, building a livery barn, several stores, drug store, and a number of homes and a post office.

The Brenham town company was organized in December, 1884, with George A. Johnson, William A. Coats, S. D. Robinett, and Charles H. Landis as the members of the town company. The town seemed to develop rapidly.⁹

The Kiowa County Signal of June 11, 1886, has the following to say: "Brenham still trying to exist, was some refreshed by the last weeks rain. Farmers busy reaping the golden grain."¹⁰

Soon after the railroads were completed, Brenham was almost deserted for most of the people moved to Greensburg, which was a thriving city of approximately twenty-five hundred population. All that remains of the once proud town of Brenham is two elevators and a filling station.

QUAKER COMMUNITY

Many people have wondered why so many early settlers in the Haviland neighborhood were Quakers. The following explanation obtained in an interview with Mary Hockett will help answer the question. B. H. Albertson, the only early

9. Olinger, Mrs. Carrie, Personal Interview, May 24, 1942.

10. Kiowa County Signal, June 11, 1886.

Quaker minister and one of the earliest to settle here, was much concerned about a Quaker settlement in the newly started neighborhood, and in response to an inner urge, he wrote a letter to the Christian Worker now known as the American Friend, an eastern Quaker magazine, asking that they run an advertisement, urging a Quaker settlement near what is now the present site of Haviland. In response to this one advertisement Mr. Albertson in the summer of 1884 received fifty-three letters in one day from Quakers inquiring about the possibility of settling in the near vicinity. This and the fact that during 1884 and 1885 the Albertsons were keeping three or four men and sometimes as many as ten, while they were building their future homes, is convincing that many settled in the Haviland community because of the knowledge that here was located a Quaker settlement.¹¹

EARLY SURVEYING

The land around the Haviland community was not surveyed in 1884-1885, and many homesteaders were worried for fear they would build their claim shacks on the wrong quarter. Those settling north and west of the present site of Haviland had no fear, for B. H. Albertson rigged up an old buck board, tying a handkerchief on the spoke of a wagon wheel

¹¹. Hookett, Mrs. Mary, Personal Interview, Haviland, Kansas, May 4, 1942.

and driving the team with one hand, while holding the pocket compass in the other, located many homesteaders on the quarter for which they had filed.¹² It should also be stated that not a single person that he located was found to be on the wrong quarter when the survey came through.

According to Fannie Cooke, the people living south of Haviland were not so fortunate in locating their claim shacks on the land they were farming, for when the survey was made her father, George Cooke, found his home was not on the quarter he planned to homestead, but that four homes were built on his quarter.¹³

OLD SOD CHURCH

The founding of a community is a great event. It calls for men and women of sterling worth, upon whom both God and man can depend.¹⁴ God prepared these fertile plains of western Kansas for the service of his people and in time he needed the hand of man to help him make them bloom and blossom as the rose. Hence, he moved upon the hearts of men and women who were in the prime of life, and created in those hearts a desire to conquer new goals. The people of Haviland heard and answered the call, and true to their convictions, they first erected an altar like Abraham of old. They first.

12. Ibid.

13. Cooke, Mrs. Fannie, Personal Interview, Haviland, Kansas, May 30, 1942.

14. Lanear, Mrs. Capitola, Manuscript.

observed the hour of worship in their homes. In April 1885, a Sunday School was organized in the home of James Gulley, a house twelve feet square, on the farm now occupied by Ernest Bindford. Fifty members were enrolled. Three classes were held on the outside of the building and two inside. The next Sunday School meeting was held in the half dug-out of Gurney Mills, situated on the farm formerly owned by Charles Harmon. The next evening this residence was blown away by the wind that swept over the plains. The next place of meeting was in the sod house of B. H. Albertson, which was covered with boards.

Under the shelter of this humble roof the people of the community continued to gather until the sod meeting house was built. In this house the first Friends Monthly Meeting was set up on June 15, 1885, and was known as Liberty Monthly Meeting.¹⁵ A year later the meeting was informed by an extract of minutes from Rose Hill Quarterly Meeting held ninth month, 25th., 1886, that they approved of the proposition, and the meeting now therefore changed its name in the tenth month, 1886, to Haviland Monthly Meeting.¹⁶

Each week noted the arrival of newcomers and the Friends began to consider the advisability of erecting a more

15. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, July 15, 1885.

16. Ibid., September, 1886.

commodious building for a place of worship. A "judicious committee" was appointed to consider the proposition, and they decided to erect a sod meeting house because of the expense and difficulty in obtaining lumber for a frame house. Such material would have to be hauled forty miles from the Santa Fe Railroad north of Haviland.

B. H. Albertson and Jabez Hall were the master builders. They selected a plot of ground, thickly covered with buffalo grass, one mile north of the present site of Haviland, on what was known as the Riley Woodward farm. From this sod they cut blocks eighteen inches long and ten inches wide and three inches thick, with which they built the house. They laid the first layer length wise, the second crosswise and so on until the walls were about six feet high. The building was 30 by 24 feet. The one door was on the south end, and the two windows were on each side. The roof was of shingles, the floor of lumber, and the seats were made of white pine boards. Rube Eaton and his son, Bert, plastered the church. The cost of the building, aside from the work donated, was \$68.

From the beginning the meeting seemed to prosper and a beautiful spirit of courtesy and loyalty prevailed. A minister from England, Henry Stanley Newman, said: "Haviland is a peculiar meeting. It is in a state of chronic revival. conversions often occurring in Sabbath morning services."¹⁷

17. Leanear, Mrs. Capitola, Manuscript.

At this time the Sunday School membership was 125. Church services were held in the old sod church until August 1893, when they moved to the second story of the Academy building in the room known as Academy Hall.¹⁸

LINES TO AN OLD SOD CHURCH

by

Susan Stanley Pyle

Thou silent yet eloquent monitor
Dost warn me by thy humble grace
That I must meek and lowly be
To gain that sure, sweet resting place.
I come this busy work-a-day
To be alone with thee,
And feign would make thee understand
How dear thou art to me.

So little of man's work thou art;
Thy whitewashed walls of virgin sod,
My heart goes out in love to thee,
So near to nature and to God.
To me this place seems "holy ground,"
So sacred are the thoughts that fill
My memory. There seems a hush,
A whispered peace be still."

So many years we Friends have met
And worshipped here together;
Sung sweet songs and offered prayer
In foul and pleasant weather
That in fond fancy I can see
A cloud of sweetest incense rise
From off the thy humble, aged roof
That reaches to the skies.¹⁹

18. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, August 6, 1893.

19. These lines are in Capitola Lenear's possession. -
(Daughter of Author, Haviland, Kansas)

PRAIRIE FIRES

The prairie fires were just about the worst scourge that befell the early settler in those first years. But little of the natural sod had been broken as yet. And the bluestem grass was as high as a horse's back and waved in the breeze. The fire of November, 1885, that swept through the prairie from west of Dodge City into Pratt County backed by a strong northwest wind, was about the most exciting experience encountered by the early Haviland Community. The flames which were many feet high would easily jump a one hundred feet fire guard. Homes were burned and a few persons were burned severely.²⁰

On November 26, 1884, a fire started on the Thompson Creek, southwest of the Haviland Community. A strong south wind was blowing and it quickly reached the Morton C. Smith home and the family tried to spread the fire so it would miss their shack. In so doing, Rosa Smith, the sixteen year old sister of Morton was burned so severely that she lived only a short time. Rosa's grave is located near the spring on Thompson Creek.²¹

20. Brown, Frank, Personal Interview, May 17, 1942.

21. Smith, Morton, Personal Interview, May 27, 1942.

BLIZZARD OF JANUARY 7, 1886

The early settlers of the west fail to agree on the date of the Great Blizzard of 1886. All agree, however, that the blizzard of January 1886, has not been equaled since.

Frank Brown distinctly remembers that a Temperance Meeting always preceded by a day the regular Quarterly Meeting which was to be held January 7, 1886, and that two neighbors came from Hopewell for this meeting and spend the night with them on January 6. The day preceding the blizzard had been unusually fine and warm, windows in the few homes on the prairie country were kept open and men went about their work out doors coatless. There was no breeze, and from the chimneys of the homes, the smoke went straight up, and rapidly. Sounds carried far and the laughter of children could be heard plainly for a half mile over the prairie.

At about 10:30 P.M., January 6 the first gust of the blizzard swept down from the north, and according to Mrs. Brown the wind was so strong it shook the dishes in the cupboard shelves. The temperature took a decided drop and all bed clothing in the house was used in an effort to keep warm. The roar of the wind, the increasing cold, and the sifting of a fine sand-like snow, made it a night far from restful.

By the morning of the seventh, the temperature had dropped to 18 degrees below zero. The gale-like wind continued through the seventh of January, driving the snow and intense cold into every nook and corner. Many families, after using their fuel supplies, brought corn from the granaries for fuel. Cattle were blinded by great ice balls forming under the eyelids. Many birds were found dead, following the storm, their mouths held open by ice pellets formed by their breath.²²

James Olinger states that Vance and Kirby bought one thousand head of cattle in the fall of 1885, and that when they counted them in the spring, only thirty head were left.²³

T. A. McNeal, of Topeka, wrote:

I have a distinct recollection of the terrible storm. To say it would be possible to walk for five miles on the carcasses of dead cattle was entirely possible. In the spring of 1886, I made a trip to the western coast. The Santa Fe had fenced its right of way all the way from about Kinsley to the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The cattle from the north drifted down against this fence and starved to death. I think it would have been possible to walk from Kinsley to LaJunta on the carcasses of dead cattle, and it was entirely possible such a thing could have been done. The whole line was strewn with the carcasses of these poor dead brutes that had drifted down there ahead of the storm, could go no further, and there starved and died.²⁴

22. Brown, Frank, Personal Interview, May 17, 1942.

23. Olinger, James, Personal Interview, May 25, 1942.

24. McNeal, T. A., Letter, April 29, 1939.

INDIAN SCARE

Another exciting early day experience was the Indian scare which reached from Sedgwick County west as far as Meade County. The report came that Indians stationed in the Indian territory had gone on the war path, and were destroying property and murdering people as they came. A great many people left their homes. Mr. Monroe, a neighbor of James Scott, drove by the Scott home with his team on the run and just slowed up enough to tell James that if he thought anything of his family to get in his wagon and start moving for the Indians were in every buffalo wallow between there and the Medicine. Mr. Wyman took his wife and children to the railroad station at Larned and sent them to Illinois for safety. Many true accounts could be told of people fleeing for safety, but the truth about the scare was that it was the cattlemen's method of chasing out the settler. The majority of the families returned to their homes in a few days.²⁵

LOST ON THE PRAIRIE

There was great excitement on June 2, 1887, Capitola Pyle, the three year old daughter of E. M. Pyle, living

25. Scott, Harvey, Personal Interview, May 30, 1942.

south of Haviland wandered away from her brothers and sisters who were playing near the duck pond. The little girl's mother, not noticing the girl among the others, called to find out where she was. It was then discovered that the baby was missing, and a frantic search was started, looking in the duck pond, hog pen, barn and other places. This was about four or five o'clock in the afternoon, and she had been in the habit of meeting the hired men as they came in from work. This time, however, the cattle were grazing near by and she passed by on the opposite side of the cattle from which the men were returning and was not noticed. It was rapidly approaching the twilight hour and neighbors were notified and the intensive search was continued. Darkness arrived and still the child had not been found. Many anxious hours were experienced during that night for it seemed that the coyotes had never howled so long nor so loud as they did during those anxious hours. Mr. Pyle was on a business trip to Sylvia and some time after midnight they sent him a telegram stating that his baby had been lost since 4:30 in the afternoon. He rode a horse from Sylvia to Belpre, and there secured from Mr. McKibben another horse and started for the Pyle ranch about thirty-five miles away.

Turn back to the scene of the Pyle home again and there the frantic mother is going first to the duck pond and then to the hog pen, thinking the child had either drowned or

been jerked into the hog pen. By this time dozens of neighbors had joined the search.

The path of the child was through the sand draw southwest of her home and since she was barefooted and liked walking on the sand better than on the prickly grass stubble, much time was spent walking around in it. Finally she turned north and met up with two of the most vicious dogs in the neighborhood, but they were kind to her for she followed them to a shanty. The neighbors were away, so she slept on the steps of the entrance to the shack. The dogs kept close watch over her and during the night they fought with some kind of animals, perhaps coyotes. Sometime after daylight, she started wandering again.

Mr. Monroe had been with the searching party all night and went home to rest and take a bath, but Mrs. Monroe would not let him lose any time for she said she had dreamed the baby could be found west of the Pyle home. She insisted he tell one other man and take him on the route that she had dreamed about. Monroe took a Mr. Shaw with him and about a mile west, walking along the edge of a cornfield about nine o'clock in the morning, they found Capitola and called out "Where are you going, little girl?" They received the answer, "I am going home to mamma."

She was persuaded to ride with Mr. Monroe on Old Tobe because he was her pet mule. When reaching the top of a

hill in sight of the house, Monroe placed the girl on top of his shoulders so everyone could see that she had been found. Mrs. Pyle was in the house at the time and did not know about it until Monroe placed the child in her lap and said "Here she is without a scratch on her." About two hundred wagons were gathered at the Pyle home by the time the child was found and approximately three hundred people took part in the search. Mr. Pyle reached his home about one hour after the little child was found.²⁶

TWO YEAR OLD BOY LOST

Mrs. Shuck remembers vividly the anxiety when their little boy, Millard, was lost. She had gone one afternoon to assist a sick neighbor, leaving the two year old fellow asleep and telling the older children to watch him. When they were not noticing, the baby awoke and slipped out of bed and toddled away. When Mrs. Shuck reached home no one knew where the little fellow was, and then began some anxious hours. Word was spread and the settlers from all directions joined in the search, but morning came and the child had not been found. Their field of tall oats was trampled and ruined in the search, a man was let down into the dry well, and every possible place was investigated.

26. Pyle, Mrs. Capitola, Personal Interview, May 31, 1942.

Many anxious hours were endured during that night, and it was not until about eight o'clock in the morning that Mattie Evans heard him crying. Following the sound she found him lying in a little buffalo wallow in a corn field which had been searched repeatedly. He seemed none the worse for his experience, but the family will long remember their anxiety.

It was only twelve years later in 1904 that a tragedy befell the Shuck family. Millard and his older brother Sheldon were listing with two-four horse teams. The two boys had stopped to clean the lister share and were just ready to start again when lightening struck, killing the eight head of horses and young Millard instantly. Sheldon was unconscious for some time, but recovered.²⁷

27. Shuck, Mrs. M. C., Personal Interview, May 27, 1942.

CHAPTER IV

BEGINNING OF HAVILAND

FOUNDING OF HAVILAND

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Asher Williamson, who lived a mile north and a half mile west of the present sit of Haviland, opened a grocery store in one room of his home, which served as the only store for the community during the summer of 1885 and the early part of 1886.¹ Sometime in the latter part of December, 1885, Ira H. Woodward, Riley D. Woodward and A. K. Kemp, discussed the subject of organizing a town company and starting a town somewhere along the survey which the Santa Fe Company had made sometime before. Riley D. Woodward proposed to donate ten acres in Township 28 Range 16 on the northeast of Section eighteen which he owned, if they could secure a like number of acres on the northwest corner of Section seventeen and the southwest of Section eight. The southeast corner of seven was under contest at the time; therefore it could not be secured. The parties who owned the land mentioned above agreed to the proposition, making thirty acres. The charter of the Haviland Town Company stated that: "We the undersigned: Citizens of Kansas, hereby voluntarily associate ourselves together and do hereby organize the Haviland Town Company of Haviland, Kansas."²

1. Woodward, Ira H., Manuscript.

2. Ibid.

This association was formed for the purpose of purchasing, locating, and laying out the Haviland Town site, and the conveyance of the same in lots, subdivisions and otherwise, and the erection of buildings. This was signed by Josiah Binford, R. D. Woodward, H. F. Siler, John Falter, I. H. Woodward, A. K. Kemp, and B. H. Albertson. The document just quoted was filed with the state on July 12, 1886. The state government acted upon the proposal, and on July 19, 1886, Haviland was legally declared a town.³ The town received its name from a Quaker lady, Laura S. Haviland, who before and during the Civil War, helped to free so many slaves by means of the "Underground Railroad" method of moving them out of slave territory. They chose the name as a remembrance to this faithful woman whose work and sacrifice has undoubtedly influenced so many.⁴ Haviland was incorporated as a municipality in 1906.⁵

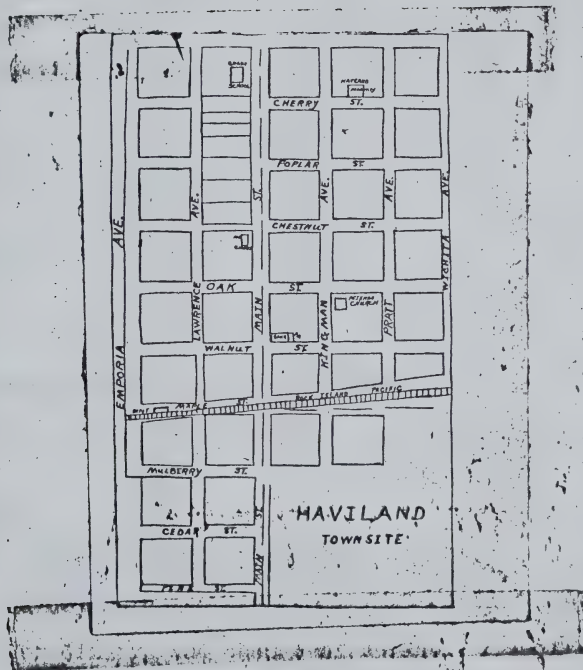
EARLY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

During the summer of 1886 the land was surveyed and plotted. A. K. Kemp proceeded to erect a fine frame store building on the south side of the Cannon Ball Trail on main street. The building was fourteen by twenty-eight feet,

3. Woodward, Ira H., Manuscript.

4. Hockett, Mrs. Mary, Personal Interview, May 23, 1942.

5. Thirteenth Census of the United States, Abstract for Kansas, p. 579.



one story high. This building was later moved on to the lot now occupied by the Haviland State Bank.

Asher Williamson, who lived a mile north and a half mile west, and had the only grocery store in the community, moved to the present site and put up a dwelling with a store room in the front and tried to secure a post office.⁶

The Haviland Town Company had made application for a post office shortly before Williamson tried to obtain it. The Town Company was granted the office, but it was during the time of Cleveland's administration and all the Company were Republicans. They had to have a Democrat as a postmaster and the man seeking to get the office was a "Dyed-in-the-wool Democrat." Of course he was not satisfactory to the Republicans, who had the post office located in A. K. Kemp's store, a "dyed-in-the-wool" Republican. By doing a considerable amount of political scheming, P. M. May was appointed postmaster and A. K. Kemp assistant.⁷

Early in the summer of 1886, a livery stable was erected and Colonel Green stopped his Cannon Ball Stage in Haviland for dinner, and change of horses. A well was dug in the center of the crossroads where the Rock Island now passes through. The town had to have a blacksmith, so Gus

6. Woodward, Ira H., Manuscript.

7. Ibid.

King erected and started the first blacksmith shop.⁸

The Kiowa County Signal of July 23, 1886, has the following to say of Haviland:

The post office at this place is now in running order. Crops are looking prosperous since the rain last Sunday night. A. K. Kemp is doing a good business at this place. We are informed that several parties are intending to build at this place in the near future.

The Haviland baseball club is exercising their muscles and expect to play some of the other towns when called upon.

Mr. Gus King is prepared to do all kinds of blacksmithing at this place.⁹

John and Margaret Compton put up the first hotel in Haviland. A. K. Kemp put in the first lumber yard.

Mrs. Doctor Reed and Mrs. Louis Woodward set up a little millinery store.¹⁰

The town company bought a printing press and secured James A. Fullen as editor and Bert Eaton was hired as his helper. They were urged to let the people know of the splendid opportunities in this great wide west and especially in the town of Haviland. The first newspaper (The Haviland Tribune) was first published in the spring of 1887. After a few weeks Mr. Fullen got tired of fooling with the outfit, and since Bert Eaton was working for him he took it over. Will Neal was also editor of the Haviland Tribune.

8. Ibid.

9. Kiowa County Signal, July 23, 1886.

10. Hockett, Mrs. Mary, Manuscript.



The second newspaper, the Haviland Reveille, was started about 1900 and continued for three years. The first editors were Dr. Moon and Eugene Moon.

In 1903 John Fessler started the third newspaper and it was called the Haviland On Looker. This paper had a number of editors, but the building and all the back issues of the Haviland papers were burned in the fire that destroyed the print shop in 1916.

Haviland was without a paper from the time of the fire until 1918, when Mr. Harvey started the Haviland Review. The next editor was Ezra Long, followed by Charles H. Hathaway, the present editor.¹¹

EARLY SOCIAL AND AMUSEMENT ACTIVITIES

Here on the frontier with its soddies, shanties and dug-outs, rough board floors, or no floors at all, little or no spending money, with little refreshments to offer, the young folks held their frequent social gatherings winter and summer.¹²

At first most of the social life centered around the church, for they had many social gatherings or "getting acquainted" parties, as they were called. The boys would plan ahead to get together and take a wagon and team. After the

11. Parnell, Vern, Personal Interview, May 18, 1942.

12. Eaton, Olie, Personal Interview, May 28, 1942.

social two or three couples would get in the wagon and take a ride.¹³

Another favorite social from which they had much fun and sport, was the box supper. The girls would place on the inside of their boxes a piece of cloth which matched their dress, and the boy buying the box found his partner by matching it with the proper dress.¹⁴

Other social gatherings for the young people after the school houses were opened, were the literary societies, and about the first one was at the Eaton School house, District Number 6. They had debates, plays, readings and other activities. Most everyone looked forward to those gatherings with a great deal of pleasure.¹⁵

The spelling bee was also very popular in the eighties, and according to Mabel Eaton, many good spellers were trained in those days. It also afforded the boys and girls an opportunity to get together for a little wagon ride after their spelling lesson was over.¹⁶

In the spring of the year, when the thrill of life began to surge forth in every living thing, the wild flowers on the prairies set forth a radiant beauty, and the trees on

13. Ibid.

14. Rush, Mrs. Olive, Personal Interview, May 10, 1942.

15. Eaton, Mrs. Mabel, Personal Interview, May 28, 1942.

16. Eaton, Mrs. Mabel, Personal Interview, May 28, 1942.

the Medicine River began to put out their leaves and spread a cool and inviting shade, then everyone--young and old--would get the picnic fever. They would gather together and start for the creek about ten miles away, in wagons, hay racks, and buggies. It was quite a long drive there and back with teams, but they would start early and get back late. Everyone enjoyed these picnics.¹⁷

Haviland tried to keep public dances out of their town, and through most of the years were successful in their attempt. Mrs. Eaton has the program for what she believes to be the first and only public dance in Haviland. Many dances have been carried on in private homes, but this one was on the second floor of one of the store buildings.¹⁸

In the summer baseball was a favorite sport among the young men. The boys were so anxious to play that they would drive out in the pasture and place some bases and construct their baseball diamond there. In those days they played bare-handed and caught behind the bat without a mask. There was no need for a backstop either. William Woodward recalls that the team of 1886 defeated Cullison 63 to 3. The Sand Rat Team was another club they competed against. In later years they played Greensburg. Haviland was considered a strong baseball team.¹⁹

17. Ibid.

18. Eaton, Mrs. Mabel, Personal Interview, May 28, 1942.

19. Woodward, William, Personal Interview, May 10, 1942.

Members of the baseball club of 1886 were Bert Eaton, Floren Tombilson, Pink May, Lue Martin, Vern Parnell, Jabez Hall, Gurney Mills, Bob Lattimus, Los Jessup, and William Woodward, the captain and pitcher.²⁰

POLITICS

Haviland has been, since its beginning and to the present time, overwhelmingly a Republican town. This shows up very plainly at the national elections, however, in the county and city elections, the voters have, for the most part, voted for the person, regarding politics but very little.

There was a period for a few years beginning about 1890 when the majority of the citizens in Haviland and also the whole County fell in with the Populist or Peoples' Party. Throughout the summer and fall of 1890, mass meetings of the party were held in schoolhouses, churches and the people heard stories of the distressed and the homeless everywhere. Most of the meetings were more like religious revivals than political meetings.

The majority of Haviland's citizens voted Populist because of the Party's platform, and because of the leadership of Jerry Simpson, the congressman from their district.

William Corrigan attended a democratic county convention in 1890 and there were only eight Democrats in attendance,

20. Parnell, Vern, Personal Interview, May 30, 1942.



and he states that there were not many more Republicans then. Dan Winters, and B. H. Albertson both strong Republicans were elected to the state legislature on the Populist ticket. Paris Newlin served two terms as county superintendent, being elected on the Populist ticket.²¹

One of the very interesting events that happened during the campaign of 1892 occurred when Abner Newlin pulled a number of wagons behind his old steam engine from Haviland to Greensburg, the wagons being loaded with enthusiastic Populist supporters. Old settlers say that was a big day. Haviland had at that time what was considered the best trio in Kiowa County, composed of Delbert, Elam, and Cora Albertson. They did much singing for the campaigns.²²

In a letter received from Cora Isham was enclosed one verse and the chorus of one of their songs.

Little Jerry Simpson is his name
L. D. Llewelling with his fame
In the Peoples Campaign they will stay
Till election's over then the're going away.

Chorus:
Morrills' ashamed of Kansas
Long can't go to Congress
Llewelling's going back to Topeka
And Jerrys' going back to Washington.²³

RAILROADS COME

In the spring of 1886, both the Rock Island and the

21. Corrigan, William, Personal Interview, May 10, 1942.

22. Woodward, William, Personal Interview, May 3, 1942.

23. Isham, Mrs. Cora, Letter, June 6, 1942.

Santa Fe had propositions before the people of Kiowa County. The Rock Island asked for \$120,000 in bonds and Santa Fe asked for \$115,000. Either road was to be completed to Greensburg by December, 1887.²⁴

The vote was probably the latter part of June, for the Kiowa County Signal makes the following command on July 2, 1886.²⁵

The trial is over the verdict rendered once more the intelligent citizens of Kiowa County stand true to their colors and declare in favor of progress. With but humble beginnings Kiowa has risen steadily step by step from the first settlement on the prairie twenty miles to the nearest post office, onward and upward until today she stands on firm footing with her county seat, and with propositions accepted from two of the best railroads in the United States.

The Santa Fe is busy grading, driving piles, constructing culverts, and laying track with all possible speed being at present within two miles this side of Cullison with the iron.²⁶

The Santa Fe train was the first to arrive in Kiowa County, making its appearance on July 4, 1887.²⁷ As the train passed through Wellsford and Haviland, many citizens boarded it for a ride to Greensburg. They stopped at each place for lemonade. A big celebration had been planned for Greensburg, the county seat, where the day was enjoyed by everyone with

24. Mullinville Mallet, May 14, 1886.

25. Kiowa County Signal, July 2, 1886.

26. Ibid., May 13, 1886.

27. Brown, Frank, Personal Interview, May 17, 1942.



an elaborate program of celebration which would have been a credit to a large city. The activities included speeches, foot racing, and all kinds of sports. The crowd was entertained in the afternoon with a baseball game between Greensburg and Kingman, in which Greensburg was the winner.²⁸

The Greensburg paper for the week on which the celebration occurred was missing from the files, but the one for the week before related the plans for the program.

An article appeared in the Kiowa County Signal on July 22, 1887, stating that "the Santa Fe is now running regular trains, passenger and freight, into Greensburg and the Rock Island will be here about the first of September."²⁹

The Santa Fe, for some reason, never completed their tracks further than the western part of the county line. They had a "Y" at Mullinville and ran regular trains from 1887 to December, 1895.³⁰ This statement is proven by the fact that an article appeared in the Signal stating that "this week the Santa Fe discontinues her service in this county and still she wants Kiowa County to pay her bonds."³¹

The Santa Fe, however, in July, 1896, started to take up the rails west of Mullinville and George Bidwell had the contract for removing the ties.³²

28. Ibid.

29. Kiowa County Signal, July 22, 1887.

30. Ibid., December 13, 1895.

31. Ibid., July 17, 1896.

32. Ibid.

According to many old settlers, the ties which Bidwell thought were not fit for railroad building were left along the road bed and farmers hauled them away by the wagon loads.³³

After the completion of the Santa Fe there was no mention of a celebration connected with the Rock Island's completion.

It arrived late in the fall of 1887, and continues to operate at the present time.³⁴

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

All the old settlers agree that the years of 1885 and 1886 were almost perfect for starting farm crops.³⁵ In the spring of 1885, farmers plowed the sod and planted corn and watermelons. They remark that they had a bountiful supply of each. With such excellent weather and rainfall in 1885, a few farmers decided to try wheat in 1886. The Annual Report of the State Board of Agriculture shows that 400 acres were seeded to wheat in Kiowa County that year,³⁶ and it produced so well under favorable conditions, that 2431 acres

33. Asher, Dayton, Personal Interview, May 9, 1942.

34. Ibid.

35. All material received from personal interviews with: Vern Parnell, Harvey Scott, Mary Olive Rush, Bert Woodward, Frank Brown, and James Olinger. Also Annual Reports of The State Board of Agriculture from 1886 to 1900.

36. Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Biennial Reports, Vol. X., p. 304.

were seeded in 1887.³⁷ It turned dry in the summer and the wheat was not as good as it was the year before.

The partial wheat failure in 1887, accounts for a drop down to 1,946 acres in 1888,³⁸ but with a good crop coming that year farmers seeded 5873 acres in 1889³⁹ and 7847 acres in 1890⁴⁰ both years being fairly good crop years.

By this time the farmers were convinced they were living in a wheat country, for in 1891 they seeded 24,597 acres.⁴¹ and the following year 30,190 acres.⁴² The old settlers say that the 1892 crop was a "bumper," and there can be no doubt of it, for in 1893 they raised their acreage to 55,524 acres.⁴³ This crop was only fair and 52,524 acres were seeded in 1894.⁴⁴ This was the beginning of three years of complete failures in wheat, and it is interesting to note the drop in acreage. In 1897 only 17,798 acres were seeded.⁴⁵

The years of 1896 and 1895 were trying ones for the farmers. Many of them wondered where their next meal would

37. Ibid., Vol. XI, p. 249.

38. Ibid.

39. Ibid., Vol. XII, p. 127.

40. Ibid., Vol. XIII, p. 128.

41. Ibid., Vol. XIV, p. 107.

42. Ibid.

43. Ibid., Vol. XVI, p. 643.

44. Ibid., Vol. XIV, p. 107.

45. Ibid., Vol. XV, p. 654.

come from, and many decided to go back east. According to observers, the wagons moving east during those years reminded one of the times a few years before when the roads were crowded with wagons coming west to settle and make new homes.

The Cherokee strip was opened in 1893, and that was another reason for the great exodus from Kiowa County.

The Annual Report of the State Board of Agriculture gives the population of Kiowa County after the "bumper" wheat crop of 1892 and 3187,⁴⁶ and after the three hard years (1896) the population was down to 1,923.⁴⁷ It is interesting to note that during the boom year of 1888, the county had a population of 5,442.⁴⁸

During the years of 1897, 1898, and 1899, which followed the crop failures, farmers had very good crops, but the prices were terribly low. Corn sold for as low as 13 to 15 cents per bushel.

It is interesting to observe the year of 1893 following the "bumper" wheat crop and find that 55,524 acres of wheat were seeded.⁴⁹ In 1900 after four years of low prices plus the drought years, only 9,531 acres were seeded to wheat.⁵⁰

46. Ibid., Vol. XI, p. 249.

47. Ibid., Vol. XIV, p. 107.

48. Ibid., Vol. XVII, p. 759.

49. Ibid.

50. Ibid.

Nearly all the old settlers say that from 1900 on, for the next thirty years or more, there was never a complete failure; hence a discussion on agricultural development beyond 1900 is not included.

POPULATION CHANGES

The population figures were taken from the reports of the state board of agriculture.⁵¹

Year	Population of Haviland
1887	126
1894	79
1896	73
1897	113
1898	83
1899	95
1900	115
1901	125
1903	151
1905	217
1906	298
1908	310
1909	463
1910	539 ⁵²
1911	586
1912	553
1913	588
1914	598
1915	565
1916	512
1918	544
1919	554
1920	597
1921	632

51. Kansas State Board of Agriculture, Biennial Reports, 1887-1940. For the years not listed the report did not list the town separate from the township.

52. Thirteenth Census of the United States, Abstract for Kansas, p. 579. Gave population for Haviland 568.

Year	Population of Haviland
1923	609
1924	632
1925	651
1926	617
1927	616
1928	601
1929	647
1930	480
1931	771
1932	639
1933	658
1934	659
1935	603
1936	656
1937	676
1938	585
1939	566
1940	500

CHAPTER V

"OUR COUNTRY DOCTOR"

A community history would not be complete without a chapter on "Our Country Doctor," especially since our beloved Doctor Mary gave so much of her life in service for the physical welfare of humanity and she was a doctor loved by everyone.¹

Mary Knapp was born at Huntsburg, Ohio, February 1, 1852, and began teaching school at the age of fourteen. She graduated from Hiram College, having earned her way through by teaching. On July 30, 1872, she was married to Almon Loniel Bennett. In the year 1884 she received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Cleveland Homeopathic Hospital College and for a number of years she practiced medicine along with her husband in Chardon, Ohio.

In 1891 they came to Kansas and bought a ranch fifteen miles southeast of Greensburg, where they lived four years. In 1895 they moved to Greensburg, where, both Dr. Mary Bennett and her husband, Dr. A. L. Bennett, practiced medicine for a number of years.

Through all these years, when Southwest Kansas was the far western frontier, when she was the first and only woman

1. Taken from newspaper clippings and interviews with Dr. and Mrs. Nat G. Bennett, Haviland, Kansas.

physician in this state; when she drove a pair of ponies hitched to a buggy and waited upon the sick in all this wild country between the Arkansas River and Indian Territory and from Medicine Lodge west to Colorado; she was known throughout this district as "Our Doctor Mary" Bennett. After she retired from practice she was known and loved by everyone as "Grandma Bennett."

Why did everyone love Doctor Mary? Because in sunshine and rain, in storm and calm, even in prairie snow storms, she risked her life by driving far and near to the dugouts and sod houses on the plains to minister to human needs, not only with medicine, but she knew just how poor some of the people were. She often took tea and some plum preserves with her; she had gathered the wild plums and made the preserves herself. With these she soon prepared a tasty bite, something the people had not had in months. She was doctor, nurse, cook, and comforter a number of times and played each part equally well. She sensed the need of a home and would kneel and pray before leaving, perhaps the first prayer to be uttered in the dugout or sod house. When she prayed the sod roof seemed to be illumined, and beyond its rude rafters of willow limbs the family caught a glimpse of heaven. When called in case of accident she would drive, urging her ponies until they were white with lather, some times arriving too late to save the patient for this world but she saved him for the next world.

Doctor Mary brought divine comfort to many a dying person. She was doctor, nurse, cook, preacher, and friend to the sick in this country in an early day.

Grandma Bennett looked back over her many years of medical practice and figured up, that she had brought 1500 babies into the world in Southwest Kansas. Allthrough this part of the country are men and women who say: "Grandma Bennett was the doctor when I was born."

Throughout this section she is looked upon as a heroine and one hears stories of how she swam rivers, braved blizzards, and dist storms and, many other dangers to drive long distances over the prairies and sand hills to reach the sick. They tell of how she was lost upon the lonely prairies in storms at night; how she spent nights on the prairies far from any house; and of how, no matter how dark or wild or cold or stormy the night, she was always ready to hitch up and go, never grumbling nor complaining, taking with her, wherever she went, the sunshine of her smile and a Christian cheerfulness.

The fee for all she did seemed of least importance, she felt that the last thing any physician should think of was his fee. She did not mean that she should not have her fee if her patients were able to pay, for it was the duty of a patient to pay his doctor as promptly as possible. The doctor's first concern should be to help and heal the sick without thought of a fee. She considered that hers was a mission of

helpfulness, first, and that the thought of money was secondary. She realized a doctor had to live and he must be paid but she seemed to be following in the footsteps of Christ, as far as she was able to do so, going to help and to heal, as He commanded. The healing, the helping, the comforting all went together. She had gone through medical college with the thought of fitting herself to be a healer of the sick, not for money, but primarily to be of aid to people.

In all this country there was but one main highway. It ran from Wichita to Dodge City, elsewhere they drove across the prairie, opening gates or letting down wire fences as they went. Grandma Bennett said: "I believe I have opened a million wire gates." Opening and shutting a gate was a fearful process for a woman. First she would tie the team to the wire fence to prevent its running away, then it would often tax her whole strength to work one end of the wire gate loose and drag the flexible, sagging contraption around. She would drive the team through, tie it again to the fence, and again drag that gate around and fasten it. It was a law of the prairie that you must always shut a gate to keep cattle from straying. With the thermometer at 110 degrees in the shade or in the winter, when a storm raged over the prairie you can imagine the hardship of opening and shutting thirteen gates in one forenoon. She always carried with her a pair of pliers



for pulling wire staples from posts and letting wire fences down so she could get through where there were no gates.

Doctor Mary believed in prayer. Once when she was using the pliers to cross a fence, her team started and pushed her into the barbed wire and tangled her up, and at the same time the team started away. She worked loose and started running after the team; she got hold to the rear of the buggy but could not get in. She held on, running to keep up, and after many trials she got in, crawled up into the buggy and got the reins. She had lost her bag, with her fever thermometer and instruments and medicines. She drove back to search for it. She could not find it. She was in despair, because, away ahead, beyond many more fences and gates, lay a sick woman she knew was calling for her. Without the bag she was helpless so, she just dropped to her knees in the buffalo grass and prayed. At that moment a baby rabbit ran into a badger hole near her. She ran her hand into the hole, thinking she would catch the rabbit, and there was her medicine bag, where it had fallen into that hole in her struggle to get into the buggy. Providence, in answer to her prayer, had sent a baby rabbit to show her where it was. She depended upon God's help, and could tell you of many times when her prayers were answered.

She never studied to be a surgeon or dentist, but she pulled many teeth and set many broken bones, treated many a wound and reduced dislocated joints. There were no hospitals



in reach in those days and the doctors did the best they could without them. There are no such hardships now for the country doctor such as this dear woman endured. There are good roads everywhere, the doctors have cars and not far distant is always a good hospital.

She always went where she was needed and did what was to be done to the best of her ability. She was always a close student of the Bible and took with her not only what medical skill she had but she took the comfort to the sick that only Christ can give, and that was very often better than all the medicine in the world.

After the death of her husband in 1916 she lived with her son, Dr. N. G. Bennett at Haviland, Kansas. Though retired from active service her Christian influence made a profound impression on the entire community. Through the long years of her affliction, when she was out off from the sights and sounds of the world about her, she never lost her interest in people and her implicit faith and trust in God. How inspiring a mid-week prayer meeting was when Grandma Bennett would stand and repeat scripture and then give such wonderful words of encouragement, she was one of God's saints. All her life she scattered that goodness and that love and mercy she talked about as having been showered upon her.

She went to her reward at Christmas time 1935, the frail familiar one that so long and unselfishly ministered to the

physical, mental, and spiritual needs of the community, but her unconquerable spirit will ever remain to guide and bless us.

She was the best beloved woman in Southwest Kansas.

CHAPTER VI

RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT

FRIENDS CHURCH

In chapter two the history of the Friends Church was traced through the various steps of its organization to the transition from the sod meeting house in August of 1893 to the academy building.¹ At the monthly meeting of November 1894 the church agreed to pay \$25.00 per year rental to the academy board of trustees for Academy Hall.² Church services were continued in the academy building until the present church building was completed in May 1906.³ At this time services were started in the new structure which has been their place of meeting to the present time.

The Prairie Flower Friends Church one and a half miles north and three miles west of Haviland discontinued their meeting in June of 1935 and requested their membership be transferred to the Haviland Church. This was considered by Haviland Monthly Meeting and on October 5, 1935, the Prairie Flower membership was received into the Haviland Meeting.⁴

1. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, August 6, 1893.

2. Ibid., November 3, 1894.

3. Ibid., May 4, 1906.

4. Ibid., October 5, 1935.

The Friends Church did not employ a pastor prior to 1909 but the pulpit was filled each Sunday by a local minister referred to by the Friends as resident ministers. It wasn't long after the church was organized before a number of ministers were in the neighborhood. The most frequent speakers in those early days were Josiah Bindford, B. H. Albertson, and Isaac Woodard.⁵

Nine pastors have served the Haviland Friends Church whose names and date of service is as follows:⁶

Homer L. Cox	1909, 1910, 1911
Charles Lescault	1912, 1913, 1914
L. Clarkson Hinshaw	1915, 1916, 1917, 1918
Isaac Kinsey	1919 for six months
Resident Ministers	1920
Claude L. Barker	1921, 1922, 1923, 1924
Leston Burns	1925
George C. Wise	1926, 1927, 1928
William S. Kitch	1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933
Gorman Y. Doubleday	1934, 1935, 1936
L. Clarkson Hinshaw	1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942

HAVILAND M. E. CHURCH

Services for the Methodists were first started in 1891 when E. R. Harris, a Circuit rider, organized three different meetings: Wellsford, Cullison, and Haviland. He would hold services every third Sunday in the Haviland Grade school building. This was continued for a short time and then the

5. Hockett, Mrs. Mary, Personal Interview, May 27, 1942.

6. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, 1909 to 1942.

meetings were discontinued for a few years.⁷

The Methodist Episcopal Church was first organized by the Reverend P. L. Mawdsley while he was preaching at Greensburg. This was in 1901.⁸ The first meetings were held in the Woodman Hall, and the members of the first class were: Lindsey Whitlow and family, Mr. and Mrs. Orr and family, Mr. and Mrs. Winters, Mr. and Mrs. George Kelly, B. H. Albertson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Frame and family, Mrs. Bertha House, and Mrs. Rosa Backman. Mr. Mawdsley stated in a letter that the meetings were irregular for a year or so and that he preached at the Cowboy Corner School House two miles south of Haviland and at the Woodman Hall off and on for awhile.

The first trustees were elected at a meeting held at the home of David Fankhauser. They were Mrs. Luie Hall, David Fankhauser, B. L. Whitlow, A. L. Burke, and W. B. Bryant.⁹

On February 10, 1903, the trustees met before Virgil Mendenhall, Notary Public, and made application for a charter. The charter was recorded in Topeka March 31 and sent out April 1, 1903.¹⁰

The trustees were unanimous in their decision to build a new church and under their leadership a new church building was constructed. Sam Frame was paid twenty five dollars for

7. Eaton, Mrs. Mabel, Personal Interview, May 29, 1942.

8. Corrigan, Mrs. Erma, Manuscript.

9. Ibid.

10. Ibid.

his work, but the rest of the work was donated. The ladies aid bought one and a half lots on which the church now stands. The church was completed in 1904 and dedicated November 5, 1904. The parsonage was bought September 3, 1909.¹¹

Seventeen pastors have served the Haviland M. E. Church whose names and date of service is as follows:¹²

The Reverend Mr. Darly	1907	1909
The Reverend Mr. Spence	1909	1912
The Reverend Mr. Doughty	1912	1913
The Reverend Mr. Renner	1913	1914
The Reverend Mr. Keyes	1914	1917
The Reverend Mr. Young	1917	1918
The Reverend Mr. Hamilton	1918	1919
The Reverend Mr. Rose	1919	1920
The Reverend Mr. Foils	1920	1922
The Reverend Mr. Ayers	1922	1926
The Reverend Mr. Davies	1926	1928
The Reverend Mr. Jones	1928	1930
The Reverend Mr. Pringle	1930	1931
The Reverend Mr. Baltzel	1931	1935
The Reverend Mr. Doherty	1935	1939
The Reverend Mr. Hardesty	1939	1940
The Reverend Mr. Brown	1940	1942

PRAIRIE FLOWER FRIENDS CHURCH

It is thought that the first organized Sunday School for the Friends of the Prairie Flower district was held in the Eaton school house, Dist. No. 6, one mile north and two west of Haviland on December 3, 1899.¹³

The Friends of Prairie Flower district continued to meet after 1899 for Sunday School and Church regularly although

11. Ibid.

12. Kiowa County Historical Society, Manuscript.

13. Prairie Flower Sunday School, Secretary's Book, December 3, 1899.

they were not organized as a Monthly Meeting.¹⁴

Monthly Meeting: The official term for any organized local church. Business meetings are conducted once a month.

Quarterly Meeting: A governing body incorporating several Monthly Meetings in a given geographical area. Business meetings are held once every three months.

Yearly Meeting: A governing body incorporating the Quarterly Meetings of a large area, usually a state, which meets for business once a year. Kansas Yearly Meeting includes the Quarterly Meetings in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and the Eastern portion of Colorado.

The preaching duties for Prairie Flower Friends were divided between a few of the resident ministers. James Olinger states that he was the speaker every third Sunday in the month.¹⁵

During the year of 1902 the Prairie Flower Friends wished to be organized as a Monthly Meeting and forwarded a request to the Haviland Monthly Meeting asking for the establishment of a Monthly Meeting to be held on the fourth seventh day of each month at school house No. 6., Kiowa County, Kansas, and to be known by the name of Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting.¹⁶ The Haviland Monthly Meeting approved the request and directed the information be forwarded to the next Quarterly meeting.¹⁷

14. Olinger, James, Personal Interview, May 31, 1942

15. Ibid.

16. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, November 22, 1902.

17. Ibid.

The Haviland Quarterly Meeting met on March 3, 1902, and appointed Abel J. Bond, Abijah Cox, Mary Battin, Fred Johnson, Wilford Swafford, and Rhoda Swafford to consider the matter contained in the Prairie Flower request and report to the next quarterly meeting.¹⁸

The next Quarterly Meeting met at Hopewell on June 6, 1902, and the committee appointed at the last Quarterly Meeting to consider the proposal to establish Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting reported the time has not yet arrived for granting the request.¹⁹ The meeting not being entirely satisfied with the report from the committee, discharged it and appointed a new one to consider the Prairie Flower request and instructed it to be ready to report at the next Quarterly Meeting.²⁰

When the next Quarterly Meeting met on September 18, 1902, the committee appointed in connection with the Prairie Flower request reported they had carefully canvassed the field and thought the time was suitable for establishing the meeting and granted the request.²¹ The Quarterly Meeting then appointed a committee to see that the Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting was properly organized.²² A committee was appointed

18. Haviland Quarterly Meeting, Minutes, March 3, 1902.

19. Ibid., June 6, 1902.

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid., September 18, 1902.

22. Ibid.

from the Prairie Flower delegates who retired and proposed at this meeting a presiding officer and reading clerk and also a committee to nominate the other different officers and committees necessary for the church. It was agreed that the time for this Meeting should be on the fourth seventh day of each month at two o'clock P.M.²³ After the appointment of the committee and the completion of their mission, the committee on organization was instructed to proceed to organize the Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting, which was carried out according to the established custom of the church.²⁴ The first Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting to be held after its organization was on December 27, 1902.²⁵

The Prairie Flower Friends continued to meet in the Eaton School house District No. 6 for their church services until February 27, 1902, when a new church building was completed one mile west and a half mile north of the Eaton School House at which time they began meeting in the new building.²⁶ This building had one large room 32 X 40 feet with two small rooms on one side which were used as Sunday School rooms.²⁷ Services were continued in the new location

23. Ibid.

24. Ibid.

25. Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting, Minutes, December 27, 1909.

26. Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting, Minutes, February 27, 1909.

27. Haviland Monthly Meeting, Minutes, October 5, 1935.

until June 1935.²⁸ At this time the Prairie Flower Monthly Meeting requested their membership be transferred to the Haviland Monthly Meeting and on October 5, 1935, the request was granted.²⁹

During the first few years of the church's existence the preaching duties were taken care of by resident ministers. In 1908 Arthur Denny Rush was appointed as the regular non salaried pastor and served in that capacity for eighteen years.³⁰

The church first began to employ a regular salaried pastor in 1926. These pastors served the church in the following order:³¹ Ralph Kinney, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Harvey, who were to divide their time as they thought best; Mr. and Mrs. Scott T. Clark were elected with the same understanding. They were followed by Minnie Hinshaw.

28. Ibid., July 25, 1908

29. Ibid.

30. Rush, Mrs. Olive, Personal Interview, June 10, 1942.

31. Ibid.

CHAPTER VII

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC SCHOOL

In the fall of 1885 the early pioneers of the Haviland community started a school in a little shack, eight by ten feet in size located on the hill west of the present cemetery, on the farm then owned by Gurney Mills. A windstorm soon closed that school by blowing the shack to pieces and scattering it over the prairie.¹

R. D. Woodward who had just settled on the place a mile north and a half west of the present site of Haviland, invited the school to use a shack of his. It was a curious frontier school house a combination dugout and sodhouse. It had a dirt floor about one and a half feet below the ground level, the walls were of sod, built up about three feet and capped with a steeply pitched roof. Benches were placed around the room next to the walls. The low walls made it necessary for the pupils to stoop as they backed to their seats. The teacher could stand upright only in the center of the room between the benches. Dattie Pickett was the teacher of the first school.²

1. Brown, Frank, Personal Interview, May 17, 1942.

2. Ibid.

In the fall of 1866 the sod church was completed on the corner of R. D. Woodward's farm across from the cemetery. The school was then moved into this more suitable building. "Old Soddy" served as a school house until the middle of the school term of 1887 when a frame building was erected on the hill where the public school building now stands. The school moved into this new building and continued to use it for thirteen years. In 1900 the present three story brick building was completed.³ This modern school house, when compared to the eight by ten shack which the wind demolished in 1885 is a monument to the development of the country and to the progressive spirit of the people. May this record of the development of the provisions for the education of the community be as progressive in the future generations as it has been with the pioneers.

HAVILAND ACADEMY

The pioneers who laid the foundations of this community were not satisfied for their children to have an elementary education only.⁴ It was thought that they should have a school of secondary level and in response to this desire a few

3. Ibid.

4. Beals, Charles Arthur, The Development of Friends Education in Kansas. A Thesis presented to the Graduate Faculty of the Fort Hays Kansas State College, July 23, 1941.

of the settlers in the summer of 1892 spent several days getting signers to a subscription paper for the purpose of organizing and starting the Haviland Academy.

The settlers only pledged about one-half of the amount required to erect a building, but they decided to go ahead with plans and found a desirable location a block and a half east of the grade school. Lots for the campus and buildings were donated to the Academy Association by the Haviland Town Company. Since construction on the building did not start until late in the fall, school was opened in October in a vacant store on the main street of Haviland. Albert F. Styles and Cora Knowlton were the teachers during the first year of the school. At the close of May, 1893, the school was moved into the new school house.

Because of crop failures and the general financial condition of the school, the board refused to plan for school for the third year, 1894-95. But at the annual meeting of the stockholders in July or August they voted to continue. The association recommended that Elvira Parker, Secretary of the board, tour the East for solicitation of funds necessary to carry the Academy through the depression. Her proposed mission was approved and she solicited in nine states, traveling more than four thousand miles by railroad. Over seventeen hundred dollars were subscribed and paid.

In 1905 the management of the Academy was changed when the stockholders donated the Academy to the Haviland Monthly Meeting. The meeting appointed trustees called "The Board of Managers" to operate the institution. In 1907 Haviland Monthly Meeting transferred the Academy property to the ownership of Kansas Yearly Meeting to be held in trust for Haviland Quarterly Meeting on condition that the Quarterly Meeting "make provision for the management and control of a school of Academic grade on said premises." These changes to larger controlling bodies were done because they thought it would be easier to finance the institution.

In this new set-up each Monthly Meeting in the Quarterly Meeting was entitled to one member on the board of managers. The Monthly Meeting participating were Pleasant Valley, Prairie Vale, Prairie Flower, Hopewell, Pleasant Plains, and Haviland. In addition to these six representatives there were five members appointed from the Haviland Monthly Meeting.

In 1910 an addition was built on to the north side of the Academy building. This was a two-story annex, twenty-four by thirty feet.

The Academy continued under the management of the Friends Church and its organization until some time in the year of 1916, when the board proposed to add a Bible Training School to the Academy. The Academy was then transferred from the Yearly Meeting's management to an entirely new organization

"The Bible Training School Association." Although the school changed its name to the Friends Kansas Central Bible Training School, the academic or high school work has continued in conjunction with the Bible Training School and the Friends Bible College.

HAVILAND RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

In the year of 1915 the state legislature passed the Rural High School Act.⁵ The sentiment in the community for public high school was so strong that a special election was called for during the spring of 1915.⁶ W. H. Dellinger, Mr. L. D. Mitchell, and Raymond Woodard were elected members of the board of education. The four upper rooms of the Public school building were secured for high school use.

In the fall of 1915 the school opened with a faculty of three; C. A. Thompson of Kansas State Normal, Miss Alice Riner of Friends University, and Mr. Howard Morgan of Kansas University. The enrollment was 36 and when Commencement time arrived the school had a unique experience for the only graduates were a brother and sister, Earl and Mildred Dellinger.

5. Laws of Kansas, 1915, p. 406.

6. The information for the history of the Haviland High School was gathered from old high school annuals, records from the office of the high school principal and from records found in the office of county superintendent of schools.

The high school opened in the fall of 1916 with 43 enrolled. One new teacher was added to the faculty, R. L. Jewell who in addition to teaching was to direct athletics.

The school increased in enrollment and demand to such an extent that by the spring of 1922 sentiment was in favor of voting bonds for a new high school building.

In the election that followed the bonds carried and construction was started in the summer of 1922. The new building located two blocks north of the Rock Island tracks from main street and four west, was completed in February of 1923. The formal dedication exercises were held in the new high school auditorium February sixteenth. The address was given by Dr. Kurtz, president of McPherson College. On February the twenty-seventh, 1923, school sessions began in the new building.

The high school added three new courses, Manual Training, Home Economics, and Music in the fall of 1923, therefore increasing their teaching staff from four to six teachers. The school continued with a faculty of six until the fall of 1936 when one more teacher was added to the teaching staff.

The school received a rating of Class A from the State Department in 1924 and has been a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools since 1936.

Roster of High School Principals

1915-1917	C. A. Thompson
1917-1918	R. L. Jewell
1918-1921	J. W. Marston
1921-1929	R. C. Woodard
1929-1933	Paul E. Donnelley
1933-1940	Louis P. Ruppel
1940-1941	Marcus H. Webster
1941-1942	R. W. Gallion. ⁷

FRIENDS KANSAS CENTRAL BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL

As has been noted the Academy board voted in 1916 to add a Bible Training School to the Academy. Frank Brown, Frank Clark, and Clarkson Hinshaw were authorized to prepare "rules and by-laws concerning the new institution,"⁸

In December of 1916, a mass meeting was held in the Haviland Friends Church building for the purpose of organizing a Bible Training School Association. At this meeting they adopted a Constitution under the name of the "Friends Kansas Central Bible Training School Association." The association was incorporated by the State in January 1917.

7. Records from the office of Kiowa County Superintendent of Schools.

8. Beals, Charles Arthur, The Development of Friends Education in Kansas. A Thesis presented to the Graduate Faculty of the Fort Hays Kansas State College, July 23, 1941.

The school was opened under its new name in September 1917, with Scott L. Clark as first president.

In 1916 the Haviland Academy building had so deteriorated that the school board appealed to the local churches to approve an immediate building program and asked permission to proceed at once to raise funds for the construction of a new building. The necessary amount was pledged and a new stucco building was completed and dedicated in April, 1918.

FRIENDS BIBLE COLLEGE

The institution continued under the name of the Bible Training School until May 28, 1930, when the association voted to add a Junior College department. They also agreed to change the name to Friends Bible College.⁹

After eighteen years of service, Scott L. Clark resigned as president in the spring of 1935. Bernard Mott served for two years. Charles Beals was elected president in 1937 and was still serving in that capacity in the spring of 1942.

8. Ibid.

CHAPTER VIII

CONCLUSION

The people of the Haviland Community have been very progressive as has been shown by their educational and religious development. However, they are extremely conservative in sanctioning proposals which would not foster the best interest of all the people. The pioneers were common, unassuming, wholesome, energetic, and friendly. The day was not too dark, but if a neighbor needed help some one would be on hand to do their part. Their doors were always open, the keys were thrown away, so that any weary traveler could stop and spend the day.

No matter how hard have been the conditions with which the early settlers of Haviland have had to contend, at least they have been privileged to lead lives out of the ordinary, everyday rut, and few of them today express regret as to the obstacles they unexpectedly were called upon to face. On the other hand, many frank and thoughtful individuals have been led to rejoice in the strong character that has been developed in themselves and others and to cherish the kindred tie of troubles overcome. There are many such for Haviland is full of big hearted people who are either early settlers or are direct descendants and proud of it.

Many have been called to their eternal home, but their ideals will live in the hearts and lives of those who made their homes in the Haviland Community.

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